

**From:** Thom Cook  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
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**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

I have been a member of the computer industry for 20 years, with experience in using both Microsoft and non-Microsoft products. Microsoft has done GOOD THINGS for the computer world, and because their products are good, they have won a large (but not monopolistic) share of design "wins". With no difficulty at all, any of the competing operating systems can be installed on any PC. These competitors aren't inconsequential: IBM and Sun (to name only the behemoths) aren't small companies with limited resources.

It is a pity that the DOJ saw fit to pursue this 'witchhunt' in the first place. I doubt that other industries in the U.S. are subjected to such arbitrary harassment. It is time to end this horrific example of unwarranted government meddling (with no imperative from the people of the country).

If special interests can cause the DOJ to prosecute a case, perhaps Microsoft could convince the DOJ to protect Microsoft's copyrights from the millions and millions of software pirates both here and abroad that regularly disregard U.S. and international copyright laws by copying and reselling Microsoft products without permission or payment.

Please serve the people.

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